His Majesties

Most Gracious

SPEECH,

To both HOUSES of

PARLIAMENT,

AT THEIR

Prorogation,

On Monday the Seven and twentieth of *July*, 1663.

LONDON:
Printed by *John Bill* and *Christopher Barker*, Printers to the KINGS most Excellent Majesty. 1663.

CUM PRIVILEGIO.

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To both HOUSES of

PARLIAMENT;

On Monday the Seven and Twentieth of *July*, 1663.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Thank you for the Present you have made Me this day, and I hope your Countries will thank you when you come home, for having done it. I am not conscious of having brought the Straits and Necessities I am in upon My Self by any

Improvidence or Ill-husbandry of My own: I know the contrary; and I assure you, I would not have desired or received the Supply you have now given Me, if it were not absolutely necessary for your Peace and Quiet, as well as Mine. And I must tell you, it will do Me very little good, if I do not improve it by very good Husbandry of My own, and by retrenching those very Expences which in many respects may be thought necessary enough. But you shall see, I will much rather impose upon My Self, then upon My Subjects; and if all men will follow My Example, in retrenching their Expences, which (it may be) they may do with much more convenience then I can do Mine, the Kingdom will in a very short time gain what you have given Me this day.

I am very glad you are now going into your several Countries, where your presence will do much good; and I hope your Vigilance and Authority will prevent those disturbances, which the restless spirits of ill and unquiet men will be always contriving, and of which I do assure you, they promise themselves some effects this Summer,

mer. There have been more pains and unuſual ways taken to kindle the old fatal Fears and Jealouſies, then I thought I ſhould ever have lived to have ſeen, at leaſt to have ſeen ſo countenanced.

I do deſire you and conjure you (My Lords and Gentlemen) to watch this evil ſpirit and temper, with your utmoſt Care and Prudence, and ſecure the perſons of thoſe whom you find are poſſeſſed with it, that the Peace of the Kingdom be not ſacrificed to their Pride, Humour and Madneſs.

I did expect to have had ſome Bills preſented to Me againſt the ſeveral Diſtempers in Religion, againſt Seditious Conventicles, and againſt the Growth of Popery; but it may be you have been in ſome fear of reconciling thoſe Contradictions in Religion, in ſome Conſpiracy againſt the Publick Peace, to which I doubt men of the moſt contrary motives in Conſcience are inclinable enough. I do promiſe you to lay this buſineſs, and the miſchiefs which may flow from theſe Licenſes, to heart; and if I live to meet with you again, as I hope I ſhall, I will My Self take care to preſent

Two Bills to you to that end. And as I have already given it in charge to the Judges, in their several Circuits to use their utmost Endeavours to prevent and punish the Scandalous and Seditious Meetings of Sectaries, and to Convict the Papists; so I will be as watchful, and take all the pains I can, that neither the one or the other shall disturb the Peace of the Kingdom.

I shall not need to desire you to use all Diligence in Levying and Collecting the Subsidies you have given Me, and heartily wish the Distribution may be made with all Equality and Justice, and without any Animosity or Faction, or remembring any thing that hath been done in the late ill Times, which you know we are all obliged to forget as well as to forgive; And indeed till we have done so, we can never be in perfect Peace, and therefore I can never put you too much in mind of it.

I think it necessary to make this a Session, that so the Current of Justice may run the two next Terms without any obstruction by Priviledge of Parliament: and therefore I shall Prorogue you till *March*, when I

doubt not by Gods bleſſing We ſhall meet again to Our joynt ſatisfaction, and that you ſhall have cauſe to thank Me for what I do in the Interval.

LONDON,

Printed by *John Bill* and *Chriſtopher Barker*, Printers to the KINGS moſt Excellent Majeſty, 1663.